

prove definitively that each electron generated is used exclusively by electric vehicles.

The “Biomass and Biogas for Electric Vehicles Act” would enable biomass facilities generating renewable electricity to finally participate in the RFS program. Instead of requiring that biomass facilities meet the impossible task of proving that the electricity generated and sold into the grid is used directly as a transportation fuel, my legislation directs the USEPA to extrapolate the percentage of total U.S. electricity generation used for charging electric vehicles. The USEPA would then set a quarterly quota for each biomass facility registered under the RFS program, limited by each facility’s maximum design capacity and the amount of electricity generated.

I recognize that some biomass and biogas facilities, specifically those with on-site electric vehicle charging stations, can meet the USEPA’s current traceability requirement. That is why my legislation would grandfather any facilities with a written contract or affidavit accepted by USEPA demonstrating that the electricity generated is used as transportation fuel.

My legislation would also authorize USEPA to collect a reasonable fee from industry to cover the costs of reviewing any applications (pathway petitions or facility registration requests) for renewable electricity submitted under the RFS program. In a 2016 “advance notice of proposed rulemaking,” the USEPA cited inadequate agency resources as a major impediment to approval of renewable electricity under the RFS program. The USEPA could waive these application fees for municipally owned biomass or biogas facilities under my bill. This fee-for-service model is based on the USEPA’s regulatory regime under the Pesticide Registration Improvement Act of 2003 (title V of Public Law 108–199), which is widely regarded as successful and enjoys broad-based support in Congress.

Lastly, my legislation would make biomass removed from federal forestlands eligible under the RFS. Current law only allows biomass collected from non-federal lands, including privately owned land, state or locally owned public lands, and tribal land held in trust by the federal government, to qualify as renewable biomass under the RFS. This restriction is arbitrary and hampers market-driven incentives to reduce the overload of hazardous fuels for wildfires on our National Forests and other federal forestlands. However, I want to be clear that my legislation would not open federal forestland to timber harvests or commercial hazardous fuels removal where such activities are prohibited currently.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members to co-sponsor the “Biomass and Biogas for Electric Vehicles Act.” As California and other western states face increasingly severe and year-round fire seasons due to global climate change, we simply must create a market for forest byproducts to incentivize much-needed hazardous fuels reduction. Renewable electricity from biomass and biogas also helps to reduce our nation’s greenhouse gas emissions and to transition to a clean energy economy. While these measures alone will not solve the climate crisis or prevent all catastrophic wildfires, they are undoubtedly part of the solution.

CONGRATULATING REV. DR. BENJAMIN THOMAS, SR. ON HIS 30TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY

## HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Reverend Dr. Benjamin N. Thomas Sr., who recently celebrated his 30th Pastoral Anniversary at the Historic Tanner Chapel AME Church, the oldest African American church in Arizona.

Reverend Thomas first came to Tanner Chapel in October 1991 and since then has been dedicated to serving not only his church, but the whole Phoenix community. He has served on the boards of several organizations, including as Commissioner of the Arizona Commission on African-American Affairs, member of the Arizona Department of Economic Security Board of Directors, and President of the Arizona Ecumenical Council of Churches. In 2001, he founded Tanner Community Development Corporation to help families meet their spiritual, economic, educational, health, and housing needs. Prior to coming to Phoenix, he served as the pastor of AME churches in Los Angeles, California; Seattle, Washington; and Joplin, Missouri. A dedicated family man, Reverend Thomas is husband to Beverly Thomas, father to Rev. Benjamin Thomas Jr., and a proud grandfather.

Reverend Thomas has been a role model to so many throughout the years. Although he has had opportunities to pastor elsewhere or to move up within church leadership, he has remained dedicated to Tanner Chapel and the Phoenix Community. I would like to congratulate Reverend Thomas on 30 years of pastoring at Tanner Chapel, thank him for his decades of service to the Phoenix community, and wish him the best as he continues his journey with members of the Historic Tanner Chapel AME Church.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF WILLIAM “BILL” MOUSER

## HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the life of William “Bill” Mouser, who passed away recently after a lifetime of service to his fellow Michiganders. Through his constant dedication, tenacity, and leadership, Bill became an essential part of the Northern Michigan community.

William Mouser was born in Hastings, Michigan, on September 10, 1950, and graduated from Lake Wood High School in Lake Odessa in 1968. He furthered his education at Lansing Community College where he met his future wife, Shirley Jean Peters, who he married in 1972. With a drive to serve his local community, Bill spent much of his retirement as a part-time facilities manager in Garfield Township and served on numerous local boards including the Grand Traverse County Road Commission, the Green Lake Township Planning and Zoning Committee, and the Grand Traverse County Parks and Recreation Com-

mission. Bill’s passing is a significant loss to our community, and he is missed dearly by his family and friends. Mr. Mouser’s tireless devotion to the public good touched the lives of many Michiganders, and the impact of his work cannot be overstated.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of Michigan’s First Congressional District, I ask you to join me in honoring the life of William “Bill” Mouser. He will be forever remembered for the many lives he bettered throughout his life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

## HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 357; Yea on Roll Call No. 359; YEA on Roll Call No. 360; YEA on Roll Call No. 361; YEA on Roll Call No. 362; YEA on Roll Call No. 363; YEA on Roll Call No. 364; YEA on Roll Call No. 365; and YEA on Roll Call No. 366.

ATLANTA BRAVES WORLD SERIES WIN

## HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the Atlanta Braves for winning the 2021 World Series.

It’s been 26 years since “America’s Team” clinched a World Series. I remember the stars of that 1995 World Series team—Tom Glavine, John Smoltz, Chipper Jones, and Greg Maddux, just to name a few. Just like that World Series lives in the minds of many, the 2021 World Series against the Houston Astros will hold a special place in the minds of baseball fans across our state—and all throughout Braves country—for years to come.

Despite Atlanta having the All-Star Game taken away in July and not having the chance to honor the late, great Hank Aaron on a national stage, the Braves found a way to bring the Fall Classic back to Georgia and pay tribute to Hank—and fittingly clinched the series in the 44th week of the year.

This team fought the entire season—despite having as low as a 0.3 percent chance to win the World Series back in mid-July and not having a winning record until August 6th. They overcame a tremendous number of obstacles to bring the trophy back to the Peach State. They have made Georgia very proud, and I look forward to them defending their title next year.

Chop On and Go Braves.

RECOGNIZING WWII VETERAN, DEAN MCKINLEY

## HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 5, 2021

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize WWII Veteran, Dean McKinley.

Born in 1920, McKinley would lose his father as an infant. Determined to succeed at a young age, Dean took a typing and shorthand course, which would set the stage for his future career.

Following his graduation from high school in 1937, Dean would make the decision to sign up for the Selected Service. However, due to asthma, Dean was unable to pass the physical exam, excluding him from the draft. Yet, his condition did not deter him from serving his country. After undergoing chiropractic treatments, Dean's asthma was alleviated, allowing him to apply for the Marine Corps in December of 1942—the day after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

While stationed in San Diego prior to his unit shipping out to Japan, Dean would take on the role of court reporter for the Board of Inquiry after the tragic suicide of a fellow Marine Officer. The typing and shorthand course taken in his youth unexpectedly proved to be useful as Dean was the only one in his unit able to write shorthand. When presented with Dean's work, the General promoted him on the spot. In as little as two years, Dean would earn promotions to the ranks of Senior Tech, Master Sergeant, and Aviation West Coast which was an unheard of upward-mobility. Impressively, Dean would go on to serve as the General's Stenographer and Secretary.

After contracting malaria while stationed in New Zealand, Dean was discharged from the Marines and returned to the States where he would marry his wife, Marvel. Dean and Marvel have been married for over 77 years and can still be found playing bridge together every week.

Following his time in the military, Dean would begin his career as a chiropractor, devoting 43 years of his life to the very practice that provided him the opportunity to serve his country.

Now as we recognize Dean McKinley, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring his sacrifice and service.

#### HONORING THE CAREER OF CHIEF BRETT MAHONEY

#### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 5, 2021*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding, distinguished career of Police Chief Brett Mahoney of Waterford, Connecticut. After more than 26 years of diligent service to the town of Waterford, Chief Mahoney “pulled the pin” and retired on October 29, 2021. He was sent off at a well-attended retirement ceremony where the department and town officials took the opportunity in heartfelt remarks to remember Chief Mahoney just as he is: a highly talented, good-natured community member and a dedicated public servant.

As a native of nearby Westbrook, Connecticut, Brett steered his drive and focus toward bettering Connecticut from an early age. He placed high value in obtaining an education, graduating with a bachelor's in English Literature from Central Connecticut State University. Upon obtaining his first degree, Brett eagerly began his work in Connecticut law en-

forcement with a brief stint at the East Hampton Police Department before starting his nearly three-decade-long journey with Waterford Police in 1995. In his first few years as a Waterford patrol officer, Brett distinguished himself within the department by dutifully serving on task forces with the Federal Bureau of Investigation as well as the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. His valuable contributions to the force were rightfully recognized by the department as he rose through the ranks to Sergeant in 1999 and then to Lieutenant in 2005. During his time as Lieutenant, Brett committed himself to advancing his law enforcement education, graduating from the FBI National Academy in 2012 and returning to Central Connecticut to earn a master's degree in Criminal Justice. His work with the FBI is something I particularly appreciate, since my father Robert Courtney who spent his retirement years in Waterford served in the FBI during World War II in its Manhattan office.

In October 2015, Lieutenant Mahoney was promoted to Waterford's Chief of Police. It was not just his accomplished background that produced this promotion, but also his obvious leadership qualities. As Chief, Brett led the department with compassion for his community and commitment to ensure the department's success by modernizing and enhancing its members' capabilities. Chief Mahoney strengthened community engagement by integrating 21st technology into the town and department. During his time as Chief, Brett became chairman of the town's Information Technology Committee and oversaw the department-wide rollout of body cameras for all Waterford officers, building upon an already existent brand of transparency with the community.

Brett's transformational leadership extended far beyond the department. Chief Mahoney utilized the department as a stalwart supporter in community outreach efforts like the Waterford Youth and Family Services 2020 Turkey Drive and breast cancer fundraisers for Waterford-led foundations. Chief Mahoney also initiated one of the first-of-its-kind programs in Connecticut, where Waterford officers were trained to connect and interact with community members diagnosed with cognitive impairments so that they had greater sensitivity and awareness with the town's more vulnerable population. Through this new program, first responders have honed their emergency response tactics and gained a refined understanding of the needs of their fellow community members. Chief Mahoney's emphasis on positive departmental and community change coupled with his genuine compassion for Waterford has undoubtedly left the town and the police department in a stronger, better position than it was 26 years ago.

Madam Speaker, as the representative for the town of Waterford, Connecticut I can firmly state that it is constituents like Brett Mahoney whose dedication to their community represents the best of Eastern Connecticut's spirit. Even though he is stepping away from the department, Chief Mahoney has affirmed that his heart will always lay with the Town of Waterford and that he will continue to support the local department any way he can as a resident. Now that he has positioned the department for greater success along with the help of his colleagues, Brett will embark on a new chapter with his family—his wife, Michelle, and two daughters Marin and Clara—as deputy

chief of police with the University of New Haven. To that end, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in honoring and thanking Waterford Police Chief Brett Mahoney for his exemplary service and to wish the Mahoney family all the best on their new path in life.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2021 DEARBORN, MICHIGAN VETERAN OF THE YEAR STEPHEN FLETCHER

#### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 5, 2021*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Stephen Fletcher of Dearborn Heights, Michigan on the occasion of being named Veteran of the Year by the Dearborn Allied War Veterans Council. His contributions to our community and to our nation are worthy of commendation.

Raised in Michigan, Mr. Fletcher's interest in serving his country was sparked by his family's legacy of service. His great-grandfather served during World War I, his father served in the Army Air Corps during World War II, and his older brother served in the Army and Marines. In high school, he decided to take courses with the Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps.

Following graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps, and went to boot camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, then military occupational specialty training at Marine Corps Base Quantico, where he graduated top of his class. He served overseas in Okinawa, Japan and at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, retiring from the Marines at the rank of corporal. He served from 1981 to 1986.

After the attacks of September 11, 2001, Mr. Fletcher once again felt the call to serve his country. Though he couldn't rejoin the Marines, in July 2014 he joined the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, where he remains today. A familiar face in active military and veteran groups in Metro Detroit, he served as commander of the Dearborn Allied War Veterans Council in 2017. Additionally, Mr. Fletcher is a member of the Marine Corps League 152 and the American Legion Post 364.

Despite his numerous commitments, he still finds time in his busy schedule to give back. Mr. Fletcher is most proud of his work with the Missing in America Project that helps give forgotten remains of veterans a proper burial. Three days a week he volunteers at the Freedom Center at Detroit Airport and assists in creating online memorial profiles for those killed in action on Together We Served. Each year, he helps at various local events including at the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Light Up the Night walk that he attends in honor of his father who had leukemia. He is someone who knows the true meaning of public service.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Stephen Fletcher on this well-deserved commendation. He has honorably served this country throughout his exemplary military career. I join with Stephen's family, friends, and colleagues in thanking him for his continued service to our community and our Nation.